

Sampark Kranti trains

2686. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has announced to start Sampark Kranti trains connecting Delhi to every State Capital in the last budget;

(b) if so, how many Sampark Kranti trains have started operating, so far;

(c) whether it is a fact that majority of the Sampark routes are delayed;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when the Sampark Kranti trains to all State Capitals would be operationalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) All the 19 pairs of Sampark Kranti trains announced have been introduced.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Train halt at Laksar

†2687. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the mail/express trains which have been ordered to halt for the transportation facility of the people affected by Tehri Dam rehabilitated in large number near Laksar in the State of Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken for providing railway facilities in the hilly States like Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) At present 8 Mail/Express trains are available ex Dehradun/Haridwar for the passengers desiring to travel to Laksar. In addition to this, 5 passenger and 1 Mail/Express trains are available ex Rishikesh to Haridwar.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[15 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) During the last few years, the following measures have been taken for providing Railway facilities for the State of Uttaranchal and Himachal:

Uttaranchal

Introduction

- a. 2055/2056 New Delhi-Dehradun Jan Shatabdi Express (6 days a week).
- b. 4319/4320 Dehradun-Kathgodam Express *w.e.f.* 09.01.2001.
- c. 2053/2054 Haridwar-Amaritsar Jan Shatabdi (6 days a week) *w.e.f.* 27.10.2006.
- d. 2687/2688 Chennai-Dehradun *w.e.f.* 30.10.2003.

Extension

- a. 8477/8478 Puri-Haridwar Utkal Express (daily) *w.e.f.* 01.07.2005.
- b. 9105/9106 Ahmedabad-Haridwar (daily) *w.e.f.* 01.07.2006.

Increase in Frequency

- a. 4319/4320 Dehradun-Kathgodam Express from tri-weekly to daily *w.e.f.* 11.11.2006.

Himachal

Introduction

- a. 4035/4036 Delhi-Pathankot Dhauladhar Express (tri-weekly) *w.e.f.* 25.12.2002, providing connection to Narrow Gauge line to Himachal.

Outsourcing of Railway tickets

2688 SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have granted a licence to the Travel Agents Association of India;

(b) the details of this permission;

(c) the way Railways would make it easier for the public to buy tickets;